

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
July 8, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

INVOCATION: Father Mike Maginot- St. Stephen Martyr Church

ROLLCALL: All other members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRATIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval July 8, 2014. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2014. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and Mr. Hardaway seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE: Mr. Goralczyk asked that all departments submit their budget estimates for 2015 by Wednesday, July 23rd.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. Pettit noted that with recent storms Public Works will go through the town again for another curbside branch pick up for one additional time.

Mrs. Miano thanked Rich Kendra and Public Works for a job well done during storm cleanup in Turkey Creek subdivision.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS: No report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Mr. Spann spoke of recent Summer Parks Department activities: Washington Park field trip went well.

Mr. Goralczyk asked Mrs. Wilson if a press release has been made for the outreach meeting. Mr. Goralczyk asked that there be communication between the parks department and groups in town (football, baseball and soccer) and that they attend the outreach meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Lake provided updates regarding Stormwater: Stormwater is working clearing and snagging in Taney ditch. As a result of recent storms Madison ditch and Meadow Dale lateral (behind 53rd Court) have been receiving attention. The only Stormwater lift station located on 53rd Court needs updating, Stormwater has received specifications from Metropolitan Industries. Grant reports for DNR an Urban Waters grant, which is an EPA pilot study are being finalized.

Mr. Hardaway asked Mr. Lake tell the county that the gate on the North side of the ditch under 56th Ave. is open and needs to be locked and also lawn maintenance around the fence needs to be done.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS: Mrs. Miano commented on the participation in the Fourth of July parade. She also reminded everyone of George Rogge's yard sale (sell your stuff), August 9th from 8am-5pm, 1500 E 73rd Ave. Farmers Market Sundays from 12pm-3pm, in town hall parking lot. Nationals Night Out will be August 5th 5pm-8pm, in town hall parking lot.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report.

UTILITY LIAISON: Mrs. Barron stated that the Bottle Cap Program has begun, and she is happy about that as well as a press release regarding the Electric Program.

Mrs. Miano read a letter from a Merrillville resident regarding the aftermath of a recent storm.

TOWN GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANIZATION: No report.

ADA COMPLIANCES: No Report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES-HARDAWAY: Mr. Hardaway listed abandoned properties in the town of Merrillville. Mr. Hardaway asked if another council member had properties because there is still time. The committee is working with Fifth Third bank and their marketing team. Mr. Hardaway went on to say that they are collecting information about the properties so they may contact the owner of the home or the bank, if either exists.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 14-22: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Police Donation Fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2014 not included in the current budget. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and Mr. Pettit seconded. The motion was approved by a 7/0 roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 14-21: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Parks non-reverting fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, for the year 2014 not included in the current budget. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve and Mr. Pettit seconded. No public comment. The motion was approved by a 7/0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 14-22: Bond resolution of the Town of Merrillville Redevelopment Commission approving the issuance of certain Town of Merrillville Redevelopment District special taxing district bonds and other related matters. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and Mr. Goralczyk seconded. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Res. 14-24: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana authorizing the repayment of a temporary loan. (Retroactive to 6/27/14) Mr. Spann made a motion to approve and Mr. Hardaway seconded. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Res 14-25: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana authorizing a temporary loan to fulfill monetary requirements. (Retroactive to 6/27/14) Pettit motioned to table Res. 14-24 and Res. 14-25 because of confusion of the need of both resolutions and Mr. Hardaway seconded. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Res 14-26: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana transferring monies of the 2014 budget within certain categories. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and Mr. Hardaway seconded. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Res 14-28: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana transferring monies of the 2014 budget within certain categories. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and Mr. Spann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Pettit brought to the attention of the council that the ditch he had been asking for a guard rail to be installed at a car drove into that ditch.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Hardaway sends his respects to the family and friends of the Gary Police Officer Jeffrey Westerfield. Mr. Hardaway commended the Merrillville Police Department for helping to escort procession through the town limits.

Mr. Pettit stated that he has been invited to a luncheon July 31st regarding the Purdue Calumet Academic Learning Center; he has learned that there are two separate entities taking over Ivy Tech Health Services Group and school and the New Michiana Hematology Oncology Cancer Care Center

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on cassette tape and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Plan Commission workshop, July 15, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
Environmental Resource Committee meeting, July 17, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.
Town Council meeting, July 22, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, July 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Carol Miano- President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer